

Appl. No. 10/825,250
Amdt. dated December 22, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 28, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) A cannula having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula comprising:

- a first lumen extending to the distal end;
- a second lumen extending to the distal end;
- a guidewire lumen, the guidewire lumen being adapted to allow a guidewire disposed therein to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen from a first location proximal of the distal end of the cannula to the distal end of the cannula.

31. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 30, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a channel from the first location to a location distal of the first location and proximal of the distal end of the cannula.

32. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a C.

33. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 32, wherein the C-shaped channel has a longitudinal opening of a lesser span than the diameter of a guidewire sized for use with the cannula.

34. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a U.

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35. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 31, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a closed lumen from the second location to the distal end of the cannula.

36. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 35, wherein the closed lumen portion of the guidewire lumen includes a slit in the outer wall thereof, the slit being adapted to allow the guidewire to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen therethrough.

37. (previously presented) The cannula of claim 35, wherein the guidewire lumen includes an outer wall, the outer wall having insufficient strength to prevent a guidewire disposed within the guidewire lumen from being moved laterally from within the guidewire lumen.

38. (previously presented) A combination guidewire and cannula, the guidewire having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula having a proximal end and a distal end, the cannula comprising:

- a first lumen extending to the distal end;
- a second lumen extending to the distal end;
- a guidewire lumen;

wherein the guidewire is sized to pass through the guidewire lumen to the distal end of the cannula, and the guidewire lumen is adapted to allow the guidewire to move laterally out of the guidewire lumen from a first location proximal of the distal end of the cannula to the distal end of the cannula.

39. (previously presented) The combination of claim 38, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a channel from the first location to a location distal of the first location and proximal of the distal end of the cannula.

40. (previously presented) The combination of claim 39, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a C.

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41. (previously presented) The combination of claim 40, wherein the C-shaped channel has a longitudinal opening of a lesser span than the diameter of a guidewire sized for use with the cannula.

42. (previously presented) The combination of claim 39, wherein the channel is shaped in the form of a U.

43. (previously presented) The combination of claim 39, wherein the guidewire lumen takes the form of a closed lumen from the second location to the distal end of the cannula.

44. (previously presented) The combination of claim 43, wherein the closed lumen portion of the guidewire lumen includes a slit in the outer wall thereof, the slit being adapted to allow the guidewire to be moved laterally out of the guidewire lumen therethrough.

45. (previously presented) The combination of claim 43, wherein the guidewire lumen includes an outer wall, the outer wall having insufficient strength to prevent a guidewire disposed within the guidewire lumen from being moved laterally from within the guidewire lumen to the outside of the cannula.

46-49. (cancelled)